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AppTestimony
HB 6825 Section 5

Dear Appropriations Committee Members,

We write to you today to express our **OUTRAGE** at the proposed immediate sweep of \$15.2 million from the Community Investment Act (CIA) funds including \$10 million from DEEP's open space grants program for this year. This cut could put funding in jeopardy for DEEP to be able to give open space grants to land trusts and municipalities over the next 2 years.

The damage from this sweep proposed in the Deficiency Bill would be magnified by the current Governor's Budget proposal (**SB 946, Section 29(b)**) which proposes a complete sweep of all CIA funds from January 1, 2016 through the end of the current budget cycle on June 30, 2017.

We are also strongly opposed to that sweep in the Governor's Budget !

This is a Quality of Life in CT issue....having protected open space for hard working citizens and their families to enjoy these areas for recreation, wildlife habitat, or simply spiritual renewal is Priceless !!

Our intent is to make this clear to the Appropriations Committee.....

" We OPPOSE the diversion of \$15.2 million from the Community Investment Act as proposed in HB 6825, the Governor's Deficiency Bill."

Kelly & Chris Callahan
Waterford, CT